

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /052 W

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O R 261704Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5048

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT OF CHARTER MEMORANDUM
OF UNDERSTANDING

REF: (A) STATE 227507; (B) BRUSSELS 8140 (NOTAL); (C) STATE 215646
(D) STATE 229227

1. WE WILL HAVE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS SEPTEMBER 29
AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL
AVIATION COVERING USG PROPOSALS TRANSMITTED IN REFTEL A.
IN GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH US SEPTEMBER 25, BEFORE US
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PROPOSAL PRESENTED TO HIM, DGCA VANDERPERREN SAID THAT

HE NOW FEARS RENEWAL OF THE BILATERAL MOU MAY PROVE DIFFICULT. HE MENTIONED THAT HE IS RECEIVING A FLOOD OF TELEX MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. WE INFER THAT HIS PROBLEM IS PRESSURE FROM OTHER EUROPEAN CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE (ECAC) MEMBER-STATES, WHO WISH TO PREVENT ANY MEMBER FROM PROCEEDING BILATERALLY ON CHARTER AGREEMENTS BEFORE ECAC-US DISCUSSIONS TAKE PLACE.

2. CURIOUSLY, EXCEPT FOR VANDERPERREN'S REMARKS REPORTED REFTEL B, THE BELGIANS HAVE THUS FAR EXPRESSED LITTLE INTEREST IN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CHARTER MOU. NOR IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE THEY FEEL SLIGHTED THAT US NEGOTIATING TEAM IS SKIPPING BRUSSELS (REFTEL A, PARA 2). WHAT WORRIES THEM IS THE POSSIBILITY OF OFFENDING THEIR ECAC COLLEAGUES ON AN ISSUE WHERE THE BELGIANS THEMSELVES STAND TO OBTAIN ONLY MODEST BENEFITS. IF THIS ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT, THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOU SUGGESTED REFTEL A, PARA 4, IS UNLIKELY TO WEIGH VERY HEAVILY IN BELGIAN CALCULATIONS ON WHETHER TO MOVE FORWARD BILATERALLY AS WE DESIRE OR DELAY AS ECAC APPARENTLY IS URGING. IN ADDITION TO TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REFTEL A, WE THEREFORE INTEND TO ADD A POINT TO THE EFFECT THAT ACCORDING TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ECAC JUNE 5 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON CHARTERS AND RELATED ECAC RECOMMENDATION NO. 9 THERE NEED BE NO CONFLICT BETWEEN TIMELY RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT OF BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS AND CONTINUED PROGRESS IN MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. WE WILL PROVIDE TEXT OF STYLES-VERES LETTER (REFTEL C, PARA 8) IN CONNECTION WITH THIS POINT, UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY BEFORE OPENING OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 29. FIRESTONE

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